

Testwale Current Affairs PDF

Current Affairs search results for tag: international-news

1. S.Jaishankar visit to Philippines (Feb. 15, 2022)

Indian external affairs minister, S. Jaishankar visited the Philippines from February 13 to 15 2022. It was his first visit to the Philippines after becoming the External Affairs Minister.

- He met his counterpart, **Teddy Locsin Jr ,Secretary of Foreign Affairs of the Philippines (Foreign Minister of Philippines)**.
- Philippines became the first country in the world to buy India -Russia developed Brahmos missiles from India.
- The \$375 million deal was signed between the two countries on January 28, 2022. The Philippines Navy will receive the first of these missiles by the end of 2022.

Fact File

Philippines

It is an archipelago consisting of more than 7000 islands . It is a part of South East Asia in the Western Pacific Ocean.

Capital : Manila

Currency : Philippine Peso

President: Rodrigo Duterte

Asian Development Bank has its headquarter at Manila

2. Germany's President Steinmeier re-elected for second five-year term (Feb. 14, 2022)

Frank-Walter Steinmeier was elected to a second term as Germany's president on Sunday after a special assembly vote on 13 February 2022.

- He has been elected for a five year term.
- The President in Germany has little power and the real power is with the Chancellor of Germany.
- Currently the German Chancellor is [**Olaf Scholz**](#)
- The German president is elected by members of the German parliament **Bundestag** and the members of the Parliament of the 16 states of Germany

3. Freedom Convey in France to protes Covid Restrictions (Feb. 13, 2022)

Inspired by the truckers that shut down the Canadian capital Ottawa, thousands of demonstrators from across France made their way to Paris in a “freedom convoy” of cars, trucks and vans.

This is a latest protest which rocked many countries where people are protesting the covid related restriction.

People have protested in the Australian capital of **Canberra** and New Zealand capital **Wellington** against the government rules of compulsory vaccination against covid.

Important for exams

France

It is a North Western European country

Capital : **Paris**

Currency: **Euro**

President: **Emmanuel Macron**

India has bought Rafale fighter aircraft from France for its Air Force .

Australia

It is the smallest continent by area on Earth after Asia, Africa, North America , South America, Antarctica ,Europe and Australia.

It is the 6th largest country in the world after Russia, Canada, China, United States, and Brazil.

Its Capital : **Canberra**

Currency : **Australian Dollar**

Prime Minister : **Scott Morrison**

New Zealand

It is an island country in the South Pacific Ocean .

Capital : **Wellington**

Currency : **New Zealand Dollar**

Prime Minister : **Miss Jacinda Ardern**

4. WFP will handle Indian wheats in Afghanistan (Feb. 13, 2022)

The Indian Government has signed an agreement with the United Nations World Food Programme((WFP)) for the distribution of 50,000 tonnes of wheat ,which will be supplied by India to Afghanistan as a humanitarian assistance .

- India has committed to supply 50,000 tonnes of wheat to Afghanistan free of cost through Pakistan’s land route.

- Last year on October 7, India proposed to supply wheat to Afghanistan through the Pakistan road route and Pakistan agreed to it .
- India has also committed to provide Rs 200 crore for development assistance to Afghanistan.
- Earlier, India has also supplied six tonnes of medicine and 5 lakh doses of Covid vaccine out of the total 10 lakh vaccines promised by India to Afghanistan.
- India does not recognise the Taliban government in Afghanistan which came to power after the Ashraf Ghani government fled from Kabul on 5 August 2020. Whatever assistance is provided by the Indian government to Afghanistan is through a neutral party like the UN or its agencies.

WFP

The World Food Programme(WFP) is the largest humanitarian agency of the United Nation.

- It provides food to people displaced by conflicts and made destitute by disasters.
- It provides food to children in poor countries through school feeding programmes
- It helps countries and communities to prepare and cope with climate related changes.
- It helps the small farmers in improving productivity.

WFP headquarters : **Rome**

It was founded in 1961

It won the Nobel Peace Prize in 2020.

Chairman : **David Beasley**

5. Australia and India signed an MOU on Tourism (Feb. 12, 2022)

Australian minister of Trade, Tourism and Investment, **Dan Tehan** visited India on 10-11 February 2022.

He signed an Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Tourism cooperation in the field of Tourism with Shri Piyush Goyal, Minister of Commerce & Industry, Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution and Textiles on behalf of the Tourism ministry on 11 February 2022.

6. Quad Foreign Ministers Meeting (Feb. 12, 2022)

Australia hosted the third in- person foreign minister's meeting of the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue also known as QUAD in Melbourne on 11 February 2022. Earlier in person foreign ministers' meetings were held in **Tokyo in October 2020 and the inaugural meeting in New York in September 2019.**

The Melbourne meeting was attended by the Indian **Foreign Minister S. Jaishankar, US Secretary of State Anthony Blinken , Japanese Foreign Minister Yoshimasa Hayashi and the Australian Foreign Minister Marise Payn.**

A joint statement was issued after the end of the meeting .The main highlights of the statement were as follows :

- For the first time the QUAD mentions the terrorist incident of 2008 Mumbai attack of 26/11 and the attack on Pathankot air base 2016 and called for bringing the perpetrators to justice .
- The foreign ministers of India, Australia, Japan and the US reviewed the Quad Vaccine Partnership, which was launched in March last year, during their meeting in Melbourne. The partnership envisages the production of at least 1 billion doses of US-developed vaccines in India with American and Japanese funding.
- Indian company Biological E is producing corona vaccine developed by U.S Texas Children's Hospital scientists Drs Peter Hotez and . Maria Bottazzi. The vaccine is called Corbevax. This vaccine will be supplied to poor countries through Quad Vaccine Partnership.
- Australia will hold an Indo-Pacific Clean Energy Supply Chain Forum meeting in mid-2022 to establish responsible and resilient clean-energy supply chains

QUAD

Quad or Quadrilateral Security Dialogue is a group of four countries US, Japan, Australia and India. The concept of QUAD was given by Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe in 2007 for maritime cooperation between these countries after the Indian ocean Tsunami disaster in 2004.

Now the group is mainly seen as a group to counter the Chinese influence in the region .

- The first virtual summit meeting of the leader of QUAD was held in March 2021.
- The First in person summit meeting of the leaders of the four countries was held by the United States in September 2021 in Washington attended by the **Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, and Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga**
- The next summit meeting will be held in Japan in 2022.

7. Iran unveils a new missile that can hit US base and Israel (Feb. 10, 2022)

Iran has claimed to develop a new missile, the Khaibar-buster. a reference to a Jewish castle overrun by Muslim warriors in the early days of Islam.

- The missile has a range of 1,4500 km and uses solid fuel.
- The missile can hit the United States military bases in the West Asian region and also deep inside its arch enemy Israel.

Islamic Republic of Iran

It is a muslim country in West Asia .

Capital : **Tehran**

Currency : **Iranian Rial**

President : **Ebrahim Raisi**

8. ICJ orders Uganda to pay \$325m for Congo occupation (Feb. 10, 2022)

- The International Court of Justice (ICJ) has held Uganda guilty of occupying parts of Democratic Republic of Congo from 1998 to 2003.
- Uganda was held responsible for the deaths of 10-15000 people in the eastern Ituri region of Congo and for looting its gold, diamonds and timber .
- The ICJ has ordered Uganda to pay \$ 325 million as compensation to Democratic Republic of Congo.
- Congo filed a case against Uganda in 1999 for acts of armed aggression committed against it and its citizens. It accused Ugandan soldiers of looting and human rights violations.
- The ICJ decision is final but it has no power to enforce its decision .

International Court of Justice (ICJ)

- The International Court of Justice is also called the World Court, and is one of the six principal organs of the United Nations.
- It was **set up in 1945**
- Its **headquarters: The Hague, Netherlands** .
- It hears cases relating to disputes between member countries but it has no power to enforce its decision.

Uganda

- It is a landlocked country in Eastern Africa. **It is the second most populous landlocked country after Ethiopia in the world** .
- Capital : **Kampala**
- Currency : **Ugandan Shilling**

Democratic Republic of Congo

- It is located in Central Africa . It is the second largest country in Africa after Algeria .
- Capital : **Kinshasa. It is on the bank of River Congo**
- Congo is the only river in the world to cross the equator twice .
- Currency : **Congo franc**

9. Sri Lanka Foreign Minister G.L Peiris visit India (Feb. 9, 2022)

Sri Lankan foreign Minister G.L Peiris was on a three day state visit to India from 6 to 8 February 2022.

It was his first Indian visit after assuming office ,he met Indian Foreign Minister Mr. S. Jaishankar ,the Indian Foreign Secretary Mr. Harsh Vardhan Shringla and the National Security Advisor Mr Ajit Kumar Doval.

Both countries agreed to schedule a meeting of the “Joint Working Group on Fisheries” to discuss the Palk Bay fisheries conflict.

Sri Lanka, which is facing a severe economic crisis has been helped by India recently . They are :

- India has extended a \$400 million currency swap facility to Sri Lanka
- , It has deferred a \$500 million loan repayment by Sri Lanka,
- It has provided a Line of Credit for \$500 million for fuel imports and another \$1 billion is currently under negotiation.

10. ADB lends \$4.6 billion to India in 2021 (Feb. 7, 2022)

The Manila based multilateral lending agency ,Asian Development Bank has lent \$ 4.6 billion to the Government of India / State governments in 2021.

- In 2021 the Asian Development Bank has signed various agreements with the Governments to fund 17 projects with a loan amount of \$4.6 billion including \$ 1.8 billion loan for India's coronavirus disease pandemic response programme.
- Of the COVID-19-related assistance, \$1.5 billion was towards vaccine procurement and \$300 million to strengthen primary health care in urban areas and the country's future pandemic preparedness.
- Out of the \$4.6 billion in loans, \$2.2-billion in loans will be provided to the 12 state government projects .
- **It has also lent \$271 million to the private sector in 2021.**
- **India is the largest recipient of the Asian Development Bank amongst all its borrower countries .**

Asian Development Bank

- It was set up in 1966.
- Its headquarters is at Mandaluyong City, Manila, Philippines
- Total member countries : 68
- President of ADB : Masatsugu Asakawa of Japan

